

#TRAVEL

LEAVE THE CITY BEHIND: 5 untouched natural havens to visit this Eid holiday



Cox's Bazar

Eid holidays come with a rare gift, which is time, so it is the perfect opportunity to step away from the noise of cities and reconnect the soul with nature. Bangladesh has a diverse landscape of sea, forests, hills and tea gardens, where travellers can take breather and slow down for a few days.

Here are 5 destinations to visit in Bangladesh to feel closer to nature this Eid holiday.

Cox's Bazar

No list begins without Cox's Bazar, as it is the first place that comes to mind for vacations. The world's longest natural sea beach, Cox's Bazar, remains one of Bangladesh's must- and most-visit destinations. The main beaches can become a little busy during Eid, but if you're willing to explore a little more, you can discover quieter places, and that is where nature truly shines.

Start the morning with the smell of the ocean, stand barefoot on the wet sand at dawn, and feel the soft spring breeze while the sun is setting in the west. A walk on the beach at sunrise and sunset will calm your brain in a way that the busy city life rarely does.

The endless hills of Himchari are on the left side of the road, with small waterfalls in between, and on the right side is the unbreakable beach. Enjoy this view while on the marine drive road. Cox's Bazar does not merely show you nature; it immerses you in it wholeheartedly.

Sreemangal

If there is one



Netrokona

place in Bangladesh that gives off a smell of earth itself, it is definitely Sreemangal. Known as the tea state of Bangladesh, this quiet town of Sylhet, is covered in rolling hills of green tea gardens, spreading in every direction your eyes can follow, which resets something deep inside you.

Walking through the winding roads of the tea gardens in the morning feels downright dreamy. The cool breeze carries the scent of fresh tea leaves, which shine brightly in the soft sun rays. You will also be able to explore nature trails and spot wildlife such as monkeys, rare birds, and rare plants.

Sreemangal offers an idyllic escape that will always whisper in your heart for revisiting over and over again.

Bandarban

If you want a mix of nature and adventure, then Bandarban offers the bundle of these two with breath-taking hill landscapes. This destination will give you the feeling of a different world compared to busy cities. The Bandarban journey itself is a whole other experience.

The high winding road climbs through the green hills on both sides. The more you climb, the closer you will feel to the clouds; Nilgiri and Nilachal reveal panoramic views of clouds floating over mountains. You do not look at them from below; you feel you are walking through them.

The Sangu River, waterfalls, lakes, and hiking trails lead you deep into nature.

Apart from the scenery, the cultural diversity of hill communities will add another level of beauty to the trip. Waking up to mountain views, green hills,



Bandarban

and fresh air on Eid holidays will recharge your tiring soul.

Tetulia

People rarely look at the northern corner of Bangladesh when they plan for a trip. But Tetulia gives one of the country's most peaceful travel experiences. Tetulia

distant Himalayan peaks from Tetulia on exceptionally clear days; it is quite a rare, and unmatched, view within Bangladesh.

The slower pace of life, and the cool spring northern breeze will make the vibe more comfortable and allow you to relax and enjoy nature without any disruptions. So, if you are looking for solitude and scenic beauty during your long Eid break, Tetulia should be at the top of your list.

Netrokona

Netrokona? for a travel destination? We rarely hear people suggest it as a travel destination. Located in the north-eastern region, this place is a refreshing escape filled with rivers, wetlands, and rural charm. This district is well-known for the china clay hills.

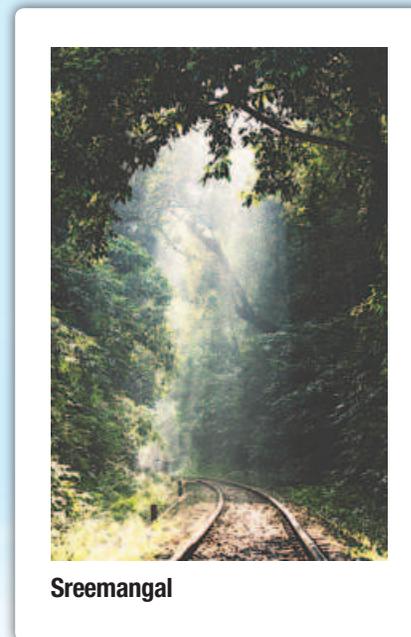
The Birishiri Lake is a scenic area, famous for its turquoise-blue lake that is perfectly surrounded by the hills. This eye-catching landscape is rarely seen elsewhere in Bangladesh.

If you are someone who doesn't like trekking, but enjoys greenery and hill views, then you should definitely visit Netrokona this Eid. As Netrokona is not like other tourist spots, you can find yourself away from Eid vacation chaos.

Eid is about celebration with your close ones — and sometimes, the best way to enjoy this is by reconnecting with nature. So, this Eid, let your heart lead you somewhere the busy city life cannot follow.

By Faria Nowshin Tazin

Photo: Collected, Shahrear Kabir Heemel/LS Archive



Sreemangal

sits next to the bank of the Teesta River, encircled by open fields, tea gardens, and quiet countryside.

Sunrise and sunset views on the other side of the river are so healing, as the golden rays stretch across the wide landscape. You can catch a glimpse of the



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